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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SEP 1 9 2002

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit 1617

**TECH CENTER 1600/2900** 

Löftroth et al.

APPLICATION NO: 08/945,655

Examiner: Webman, Edward J.

FILED: October 24, 1997

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION FOR SUSTAINED RELEASE

OF THE HMG-CoA REDUCTASE INHIBITOR FLUVASTATIN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated April 16, 2002, for which the time to respond extends to and includes September 16, 2002, due to the attached two-month petition for extension of time, Applicant elects prosecution of Group I, claims 1-6, 15-22 and 29 and polyethylene oxide as the polymer, with\traverse.

In view of the foregoing, the application is now considered to be in condition for allowance.

**Novartis Corporation** Patent and Trademark Dept. 564 Morris Avenue Summit, NJ 07901-1027

Date: September 16, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Loeschorn Reg. No. 35590

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